

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GABORO 00666 201615Z

63

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-10 ARA-10 OMB-01 /094 W

----- 107171

R 201445Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6606

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS GABORONE 0666

EM O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BC, RH

SUBJECT: KHAMA'S RETURN FROM ABROAD

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. ON SUNDAY, MAY 18, PRESIDENT SIR SERETSE KHAMA, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ARCHIE MOGWE, RETURNED FROM AN EXTENDED VISIT ABROAD INCLUDING ATTENDANCE AT THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE IN KINGSTON, JAMAICA AND STATE VISITS TO GUYANA AND BARBADOS. GOVERNMENT HAD ASSEMBLED LARGE GROUP OF MINISTERS AND CIVIL SERVANTS, AS WELL AS DIPLOMATS (INCLUDING CHARGE' FOR RECEPTION LINE. PRC CHARGE' MADE WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN HIS FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE ON THIS OCCASION. AN UNUSUALLY LARGE CROWD ALSO GATHERED PRESUMABLY BASED ON RADIO AND OTHER MEDIA INVITWTION.

2. PRESIDENT KHAMA, WHO ARRIVED BY CHARTERED JET, REVIEWED SMALL POLICE MOBILE UNIT DETACHMENT AND THEN ADDRESSED CROWD FROM AIRPLANE BOARDING RAMP IN SETSWANA. ACCORDING TO RADIO BOTSWANA REPORT, THEME OF HIS INFORMAL REMARKS WAS "DIFFICULTIES ASSOCIATED UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 GABORO 00666 201615Z

WITH A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT". HE CALLED SMITH "A PIGHEADED MAN"

WHO COULD NOT STOP THINKING OF "A GOVERNMENT HEADED ONLY BY WHITES" AND SAID HE WAS STILL DEALING WITH AFFAIRS IN A MANNER THAT COULD CAUSE DIFFICULTIES FOR THE REGION. THE PRESIDENT ALSO ALLUDED TO THE POSSIBILITY OF VIOLENCE IF SMITH DID NOT STOP HINDERING EFFORTS TOWARD A PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN RHODESIA. THOMSEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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To: STATE
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